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CODIB-D-107/8

9 March 1964

UNITED STATES INTELLIGENCE BOARD

COMMITTEE ON DOCUMENTATION

Progress Report on Foreign Intelligence

Objective No. 3

1. Attached for the record is a copy of the memorandum from the Chairman to the Deputy to the DCI/National Intelligence Programs Evaluation (NIPE), transmitting subject report. Reflected therein are the changes to CODIB-D-107/7 suggested by phone.

2. Concerning para. 3 of Mr. Borel's letter, advance distribution of the SCIPS report to CODIB principals was made today (9 March); circulation to USIB is planned by 15 March.

Secretary

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GROUP I

Excluded from automatic
downgrading and
declassification

6 March 1964

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy to DCI/National Intelligence Programs
Evaluation

SUBJECT: Progress Report on Foreign Intelligence Objective No. 3

REFERENCE: Your memorandum dated 14 Feb 64 (TS 188478)

1. Pursuant to reference, and the meeting held by General Carter on 19 February, I enclose a proposed text covering the progress made toward Foreign Intelligence Objective #3: Data Processing.

2. This text has been concurred in by the USIB Committee on Documentation.

3. Please note that the SCIPS report will probably be circulated to USIB by 15 March. Should USIB action on that report be taken prior to the submission of the DCI's progress report to Mr. Bundy, the present text should be remanded to me for revision.

/s/
PAUL A. BOREL
Chairman
USIB Committee on Documentation

Attachment

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6 March 1964

**Progress Report on
United States Foreign Intelligence
Objective No. 3:
Automatic Data Processing**

1. The study of the Community's information processing system (SCIPS) referred to in reference (b) below has been completed. The study, a review of it by an outside panel of consultants, and an evaluation by the USIB Committee on Documentation (CODIB) are now being considered by the Intelligence Board.

2. These efforts address themselves to a wide spectrum of problems. Included are specific recommendations for action on many matters relating to the processing of information, among them an adverse recommendation on establishing a national center for indexing intelligence documents, primarily for two reasons: (a) a single deep indexing system is considered presently infeasible; and (b) added centralization could not promise a solution to the problem at this point in time.

3. Alternative proposals for providing the Community with additional expert staff support to pursue solutions to its information processing problems have been considered. The SCIPS study group and the panel of consultants recommended the

References: (a) Mr. McGeorge Bundy's memo of 17 June 63
(b) DCI response of 9 Sept 63
(c) D/DCI/NIFE memo to Chairman, CODIB, 14 Feb 64

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establishment of a permanent interagency body of sufficient size to cover the problem areas. CODIB, however, has rejected this approach in favor of a number of ad hoc panels to be supported by a small permanent executive secretariat (group of documentalists). CODIB not only found excessive the time necessary to build up a sizable competent permanent group (unless this were done at the expense of promising intra-departmental programs), but considers counter-productive any plan which calls for solutions developed by specialists not themselves involved in departmental information handling operations.

4. We have received reports of progress from the National Academy of Sciences regarding the establishment of its advisory committee on automatic language processing. This disinterested group is to advise the Department of Defense, the Central Intelligence Agency and the National Science Foundation on research and development in the general field of the mechanical handling of languages, including their translation.

5. The DDCI has also just received a response from the Science Advisor to the President to his inquiry on means of stepping up the national effort to break through particularly critical information processing problems. Discussions on Dr. Hornig's proposals will be scheduled with him and with representatives of Dr. Brown, Director of Defense Research and Development.

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6. USIB action on the SCIPS study mentioned above will be expedited and be as responsive as possible to the attainment of this intelligence objective. Both the report and the record of USIB action thereon will shortly be forwarded to the President's Foreign Intelligence Advisory Board for its information. These will of course be available to you also.

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